

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EA-07 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 648

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 1760

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, XG

SUBJECT: PROPOSED EC GRAIN PRICES

REF: STATE 048241

1. WE CONVEYED ON MARCH 1 THE POINTS IN PARA 1 OF THE REFTEL TO LARDINOIS' CHEF DE CABINET WIJNMAALEN, COMMISSION DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE RABOT, AND COMMISSION DIRECTOR FOR NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS FIELDING. THROUGH HE MADE NO RESPONSE, WIJNMAALEN TOOK CAREFUL NOTE OF OUR MESSAGE, COMMENTING ONLY THAT IT IS INDEED TRUE THAT THE PROPOSED EC GRAIN PRICES FOR 1976/77 ARE LARGER IN ABSOLUTE AND PERCENTAGE TERMS THAN ANY IN EC HISTORY. RABOT, ON THE OTHER HAND, SAID THE PROPOSED PRICES WERE THE MINIMUM

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THE COMMISSION FELT IT COULD PROPOSE GIVEN THE INFLATIONARY

IMPACT OF FARM PRODUCTION COSTS, BUT HE NEVERTHELESS REGRETTED
THEIR HIGH LEVEL. HE SAID THAT, PARTICULARLY IN THE CASE
OF DAIRY, THE LATERATIVE TO THE PROPOSED PRICE LEVELS IN HIS
VIEW WOULD BE THE REAPPEARANCE OF NATIONAL SUPPORTS. HE SAID
THE FRENCH WOULD BE THE FIRST TO RESORT TO NATIONAL
SUBSIDIES IN SUCH A CASE. THE FAILURE OF BOTH RABOT AND
WIJNMAALEN TO ARGUE THE COMMISSION'S POSITION WAS DUE MAINLY
TO THEIR BEING HEAVILY TIED UP IN THE PREPARATION OF THE
MARCH 2 COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS. WE WERE ABLE TO
GET TO WIJNMAALEN ONLY BY INSISTING THAT HE COME OUT OF ONE
OF THE PREPARATORY MEETINGS.HINTON

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